



Treasury Financial Manual

BULLETIN NO. 98-08

VOLUME I

RETENTION: SEPTEMBER 30, 1999

TO: HEADS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES, AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION TO BULLETIN 97-04 YEAR 2000 DATE CONVERSION FORMAT

1. PURPOSE

This bulletin supplements 97-04 dated April 29, 1997. It provides clarification on the use of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) standard and data exchange formats for the Financial Management Service (FMS) automated systems for year 2000 processing.

2. PROCEDURAL CHANGES

FMS INTERNAL SYSTEMS: An FMS Internal System is defined as a system that resides on the FMS platform. FMS has adopted the NIST standard as specified in Bulletin 97-04 for use in the development of new systems. Adoption of the NIST standard for legacy systems will be determined on a case by case basis. Specifications will be provided to Federal Program Agencies interfacing with any FMS system adopting the NIST standard prior to any format change to allow sufficient time to coordinate making and testing those changes.

Assessment of FMS legacy systems for year 2000 compliance has determined that the majority of FMS payment, claims and accounting systems require no change in date format to ensure accurate processing in and after the year 2000. Accordingly, there will be no change in input or output records or file formats for Federal Program Agencies interfacing directly with the following FMS systems:

- Check Payment & Reconciliation System (CP&R).
- Treasury Receivable, Accounting & Collection System (TRACS).
- Vendor, Miscellaneous, Salary and Travel Payment Systems including Claims of Nonreceipt, Disposition and Cancellation Formats.
- Financial Organization Master File.

Bulletin 98-06, dated February 18, 1998, provides additional clarifying information on vendor/miscellaneous, salary and travel payment systems.

FMS EXTERNAL SYSTEMS: An FMS External System is defined as a system that resides and is maintained on a platform outside of FMS, e.g., at a contractor site, financial institution and/or a Federal Reserve Bank.

The FMS collection systems that are maintained with a financial institution and/or a Federal Reserve Bank are not required to use the NIST date format for their internal system conversion efforts or for the exchange of files with their external partners, e.g., Federal agencies. Any date format is acceptable for the exchange of files between the financial institutions and Federal Reserve Banks that maintain and operate systems on behalf of FMS and their external partners, e.g., Federal agencies, as long as it is formally agreed upon by all partners in a date format exchange agreement. The FMS is requiring that these financial institutions and Federal Reserve Banks be able to send and receive any date format agreed upon with their external partners.

The financial institutions and/or the Federal Reserve Banks' systems that interface with an FMS internal system are required to use the NIST date format as specified in Bulletin 97-04.

There will be no change in input records, output records, or file formats for CASH-LINK, or on the Government On-Line Accounting Link System (GOALS).

3. EFFECTIVE DATE

Immediately.

4. INQUIRIES

Inquiries relating to payment file formats (vendor/miscellaneous, salary and travel) should be directed to the appropriate Regional Financial Center's Customer Assistance Staff listed in the Attachment.

All other inquiries relating to FMS systems should access the FMS web site: <http://www.fms.treas.gov/y2k>, for system point of contact.



Date: April 8, 1998

Richard L. Gregg
Commissioner

Attachment

ATTACHMENT

CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE STAFF ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Contact	Address
Austin Regional Financial Center	P.O. Box 149058 Austin, TX 78714-9058 512-342-7300
Birmingham Regional Financial Center	P.O. Box 2451 Birmingham, AL 35201-2451 205-912-6400
Chicago Regional Financial Center	P.O. Box 8670 Chicago, IL 60680-8670 312-353-2364
Kansas City Regional Financial Center	P.O. Box 12599 Kansas City, MO 64116-0599 816-414-2100
Philadelphia Regional Financial Center	P.O. Box 8676 Philadelphia, PA 19101-8676 215-516-8015
San Francisco Regional Financial Center	P.O. Box 193858 San Francisco, CA 94119-3858 415-744-7967